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PARIS FOR USRO

In discussion reported Paris POLTO 2170 there appears to have been little consideration given to disadvantages to West of a system of inspection and control in proposed denuclearized area. Since our main military strength in Europe is concentrated this area whereas Soviets could maintain their principal forces just outside it would appear to me that a strict system of inspection would give them a decided military advantage. From political point of view believe such inspection would favor West.

In recent conversation with Davis, Chief of American Section Soldatov remarked that in recent times Soviet Union had twice suffered from German aggression and had no intention of allowing possibility of third attack. He pointed out that for many years Germany had been divided into a large number of states and he saw no reason why it should not remain divided in two. Also of interest was his remark that from press reports he gathered argument was being advanced that West could afford an arms race better than Soviet bloc. He considered this to be untrue, pointing out fact that Soviet Union had built up its armaments at a time when it was obliged simultaneously to devote enormous resources for reconstruction of damage caused by last war.

THOMPSON

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